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| Notice of Allowability | Application No. 09/777,280 Examiner Luz L. Alejandro | Applicant(s) YONEZAWA ET AL. Art Unit 1763 |
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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to communication of 5/17/04.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12.
3. The drawings filed on 05 February 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

Luz L. Alejandro
LUZALEJANDRO-MULERO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John F. Hayden on 7/26/04.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

- A) In claim 1-line 5, before "plurality", -- conveyance supporting portion including a – has been inserted.
- B) In claim 1-line 5, "being" has been deleted.
- C) In claim 1-line 7, the semicolon " ; " has been deleted and – , the conveyance supporting portion serving as a ground electrode; – has been inserted.
- D) In claim 1-lines 8-9, "a ground electrode in contact with each of the plurality of cylindrical rollers;" has been deleted.
- E) In claim 1-line 10, "ground electrode" has been deleted.
- F) In claim 1-line 10, after "the" – conveyance supporting portion -- has been inserted.
- G) In claim 1-line 18, "ground electrode" has been deleted.

H) In claim 1-line 18 before “and”, -- plurality of cylindrical rollers – has been inserted.

I) In claim 1-line 24, after the comma “ , ” , – with the substrate being curved so that said substrate has a concave surface in contact with consecutive ones of said plurality of cylindrical rollers and a convex surface opposite to said concave surface, and – has been inserted.

J) In claim 1-lines 25-26, “wherein the ground electrode act as a conveyance supporting portion,” has been deleted.

K) In claim 3-line 5, before “plurality”, -- conveyance supporting portion including a – has been inserted.

L) In claim 3-line 5, “being” has been deleted.

M) In claim 3-line 7, the semicolon “ ; ” has been deleted and – , the conveyance supporting portion serving as a ground electrode; – has been inserted.

N) In claim 3-lines 8-9, “a ground electrode in contact with each of the plurality of cylindrical rollers;” has been deleted.

O) In claim 3-line 10, “ground electrode” has been deleted.

P) In claim 3-line 10, after “the” – conveyance supporting portion -- has been inserted.

Q) In claim 3-line 12, “ground electrode” has been deleted.

R) In claim 3-line 12 before “and”, -- plurality of cylindrical rollers – has been inserted.

S) In claim 3-line 18, after the comma “ , ” , – with the substrate being curved so that said substrate has a concave surface in contact with consecutive ones of said plurality of cylindrical rollers and a convex surface opposite to said concave surface, and – has been inserted.

T) In claim 3-lines 19-20, “wherein the ground electrode act as a conveyance supporting portion,” has been deleted.

U) In claim 10-line 7, after “with”, -- consecutive ones of – has been inserted.

V) Claims 13-15 have been cancelled.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art, either singly or in combination, fails to anticipate or render obvious, a film formation apparatus comprising: a conveyance supporting portion including a plurality of cylindrical rollers being provided between the one end and the other end along an arc, an opposing electrode opposing the conveyance supporting portion, and wherein the substrate is curved so that the substrate has a concave surface in contact with consecutive ones of plurality of cylindrical rollers and a convex surface opposite to the concave surface, as recited in independent claims 1 and 3. Additionally, the prior art, either singly or in combination, fails to anticipate or render obvious, an apparatus comprising: a plurality of cylindrical rollers arranged along an arc, an opposing electrode opposing the plurality of cylindrical rollers, and wherein the substrate is curved so that the substrate has a concave surface in contact with consecutive ones of plurality

of cylindrical rollers and a convex surface opposite to the concave surface, as recited in independent claim 10.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Luz L. Alejandro whose telephone number is 571-272-1430. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 7:30 to 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory L. Mills can be reached on 571-272-1439. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Luz L. Alejandro
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1763

July 26, 2004